



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

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# News Release

## **GRAND JURY INDICTS FUGITIVE TULSA CEO, COMPANY** *GasTech indicted for violating trade sanctions against Iran; CEO failed to appear for trial*

TULSA, Okla.—A Federal Grand Jury here returned an indictment April 6 against a local oil company president and the company itself for evading and avoiding the trade sanctions against Iran, which was uncovered by special agents from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the U.S. Commerce Department.

This latest indictment of both Parviz Khosrowyar and his GasTech Engineering Corp. follows the March 28 trial date that the company's president and chief executive officer failed to appear for, and an earlier indictment against him. Upon conviction, the indictment seeks that GasTech forfeit cash or property equal to \$401,000.

Parviz Khosrowyar, 55, is a U.S. citizen of Iranian decent and is GasTech's president. According to a news release from the U.S. Attorney, Northern District of Oklahoma, Khosrowyar's lawyer notified the court that he was in London and did not intend to appear for trial.

Special agents from the ICE Office in Oklahoma City began investigating GasTech in July 2001 for suspected violations of the Iranian Transaction Regulations. ICE collected information from cooperating witnesses, Grand Jury subpoenas, and a search warrant executed in March 2003. Information collected from this search warrant led to the discovery that Khosrowyar entered into a \$12 million illegal contract with the National Iranian Gas Co. using businesses located in Canada. The U.S. began an embargo against Iran in 1995 due to its sponsoring terrorism, and its active pursuit of weapons of mass destruction.

"Trade sanctions are decided upon by the highest levels of our government," said Michael Arnold, resident agent-in-charge for the ICE Oklahoma City Office of Investigations. "GasTech and its CEO are accused of illegally ignoring those sanctions for profit, and trying to cover the deal through Canadian business transactions."

A sealed indictment was returned against Khosrowyar in October 2003 charging him with one count of violating the Iranian Transaction Regulations. A federal arrest warrant for Khosrowyar was issued June 3, 2004.

The U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of Oklahoma, issued a bench warrant for Khosrowyar's arrest following his failure to appear for his March 28 trial.

U.S. Attorney, Northern District of Oklahoma David E. O'Meilia is quoted in his news release: "By intentionally failing to appear, Khosrowyar has subjected himself to a number of possible sanctions. Among those are contempt of court, indictment for felony failure to appear, loss of his United States passport, and forfeiture of any applicable bond. Additionally, our office intends to pursue every avenue to see that Mr. Khosrowyar is apprehended and brought to justice."

According to its website, GasTech designs and fabricates onshore and offshore oil and gas processing plants and systems, industrial process equipment, petrochemical and industrial heating equipment.

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*